

Message Text

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44

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 SSO-00 SY-05 /017 W

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O 171220Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY DAKAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2236

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L DAKAR 5297

E.O. 11652: DECLASSIFY AFTER COM MEETING

TAGS: OCON, XY, SG

SUBJ: DAKAR CHIEFS OF MISSION MEETING

REF: DAKAR 52127#

ADDIS FOR RSS AND RMO, DEPT XOR AF AND SY

SUMMARY: RSO HAS INSPECTED AND APPROVED THREE POSSIBLE SITES FOR PROPOSED OCTOBER 15-17 COM MEETING. THIS MESSAGE CONTAINS SECURITY ANALYSIS OF ALTERNATIVE VENUES, REQUIREMENTS FOR TDY MARINES, ESTIMATED COMPARATIVE SITE COSTS, ESTIMATES AND OTHER ANTICIPATED COST CATEGORIES. WEIGHING RSO'S EVALUATION AGAINST COST, CONVENIENCE AND COMFORT FACTORS, EMBASSY RECOMMENDS THAT BOTH LODGING AND CONFERENCE MEETINGS BE CENTRALIZED IN TERANGA HOTEL IN DOWNTOWN DAKAR, SUBJECT TO DECISION BY DEPARTMENT TO FUND COST OF SUITABLE CONFERENCE ROOM IN HOTEL. DEPARTMENT DECISION NEEDED BEFORE SEPT 20 DUE ANTICIPATED SHORTAGE HOTEL SPACE MID-OCTOBER. END SUMMARY.

1. ACCEPTABLE ALTERNATIVE MEETING SIZES: AFTER PHYSICAL INSPECTION OF ALTERNATIVE FACILITIES IN DAKAR ON SEPT 15-16, RSO AND RSO/T ABIDJAN HAVE GIVEN SECURITY APPROVAL FOR THREE POSSIBLE COM MEETING SITES. APPROVED POSSIBILITIES ARE AS FOLLOWS, IN DESCENDING ORDER OF PREFERENCE FROM SECURITY STANDPOINT:

A. EMBASSY (MEETINGS WOULD TAKE PLACE IN AID DIRECTOR'S OFFICE, WITH ALL PARTICIPANTS HOUSED AT TERANGA HOTEL).

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B. HOTEL N'GOR/DIARAMA COMPLEX (MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD AT N'GOR, WITH HOUSING FOR ALL PARTICIPANTS AT DIARAMA).

C. HOTEL TERANGA (MEETINGS WOULD BE HELD IN CONFERENCE ROOM OF HOTEL, WHERE ALL PARTICIPANTS WOULD ALSO BE HOUSED).

2. SECURITY ANALYSIS: A. RSO STRONGLY RECOMMENDS THAT ALL PARTICIPANTS BE HOUSED IN SAME HOTEL, AND THAT ROOMS BE IN CLOSE PROXIMITY.

B. RSO RECOMMENDS THAT BOTH MEETING AND LIVING AREAS BE SECURED AND CONTROLLED BY MARINE GUARDS.

C. ADDITIONAL MARINES WHO RSO CONSIDERS WOULD BE REQUIRED FOR TDY IN DAKAR FOR ALTERNATIVE SITES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

EMBASSY MEETING	1
N'GOR/DIARAMA	2
TERANGA	2

TDY MARINES SHOULD REPORT TO DAKAR PRIOR TO OCTOBER 13.

3. ESTIMATED SITE COSTS:

A. EMBASSY--ONLY INCIDENTAL EXPENSES FOR MEETING AREA; ROOM COSTS AT TERANGA AS INDICATED BELOW.

B. N'GOR/DIARAMA

CONFERENCE ROOM (N'GOR) 4 DAYS CFA 80,000 (US \$360.36)
HOUSING (DIARAMA)--SINGLE CFA 8,500 (US\$ 38.29), DOUBLE
CFA 9,800 (US\$44.14) PER DAY.

C. TERANGA

CONFERENCE ROOM - 4 DAYS CFA 140,000 (US\$ 630.63)
HOUSING: (RATES PER DAY)
SINGLE (SEASIDE) - CFA 11,500 (US\$51.80)
SINGLE (CITYSIDE) - CFA 9,500 (US\$42.79)

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DOUBLE (SEASIDE) - CFA 12,500 (US\$56.31)
DOUBLE (CITYSIDE) - CFA 10,500 (US\$ 47.30)

4. OTHER ANTICIPATED COSTS:

A. CONTROL ROOM(S) AT HOTEL.
B. CAR RENTALS FOR MOTOR POOL.
C. TDY MARINES

D. SPECIAL REPRESENTATION EXPENSES

5. EMBASSY'S RECOMMENDATION: EMBASSY PERCEIVES ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS WHICH IT BELIEVES SHOULD BE WEIGHED AGAINST SECURITY CONCLUSIONS SET FORTH ABOVE. USE OF EMBASSY MEETING SITE WOULD DISRUPT ADMINISTRATION OF USAID MISSION DURING WEEK OF CONFERENCE BY PRE-EMPTING DIRECTOR'S OFFICE. IF MEETING HELD AT EMBASSY, PARTICIPANTS WOULD ALSO BE OBLIGED TO TRAVERSE 2-1/2 BLOCK DISTANCE TO TERANGA SEVERAL TIMES DAILY; WHILE USE OF VEHICLES FOR THIS SHORT DISTANCE WOULD PROBABLY BE MORE NUISANCE THAN CONVENIENCE, GROUPS OF AMERICAN AMBASSADORS MOVING ON FOOT BACK AND FORTH ON PRESCRIBED PATTERN IN DOWNTOWN DAKAR WOULD CONSTITUTE HIGHLY ATTRACTIVE AND VULNERABLE TARGET DURING PERIOD IN WHICH ALL US POSTS HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO TAKE ALL POSSIBLE STEPS TO IMPROVE SECURITY IN FACE OF SERIOUS TERRORIST THREAT. FURTHER, ALTHOUGH AID DIRECTOR'S OFFICE IS MANAGEABLE FROM SECURITY POINT OF VIEW, FROM COMFORT STANDPOINT THAT SITE IS LEAST DESIRABLE OF ALL, SINCE HIS "L"-SHAPED OFFICE WOULD BE NOISY AND CRAMPED FOR CONFERENCE OF SIZE ENVISAGED AND VENTILATION AND COOLING WOULD BE INADEQUATE. ON OTHER HAND, NGOR/DIARAMA ALTERNATIVE POSES LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS BY VIRTUE OF ITS LOCATION SOME EIGHT MILES FROM CHANCERY AND DOWNTOWN DAKAR, AS WELL AS AVERAGE OF 5 TO 8 MILES FROM COM AND OTHER RESIDENCES WHERE HOSPITALITY MIGHT BE OFFERED. TRANSPORTATION EXPENSE AND COMMUNICATIONS DELAYS AT THIS SITE PROBABLY NEGATE ITS ADVANTAGES. SUBJECT TO THE DEPARTMENT'S PREPAREDNESS TO ALLOCATE NECESSARY FUNDS FOR ADEQUATE HOTEL CONFERENCE ROOM, EMBASSY IS THUS INCLINED TO RECOMMEND TERANGA AS SITE FOR BOTH LODGING AND CONFERENCE, IN PREFERENCE TO EITHER CRAMPED ARRANGEMENTS IN AID DIRECTOR'S OFFICE OR MOVEABLE FEAST THAT WOULD BE NECESSITATED BY NGOR/DIARAMA SITE. RECENT INCREASE IN DAKAR PER DIEM RATE FROM \$48 TO \$57 WILL HELP PARTICIPANTS OFFSET COST OF

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TERANGA ACCOMMODATIONS. EMBASSY SUGGESTS THAT DEPARTMENT ALSO CONSIDER FUNDING DIRECTLY RENTAL OF ALL LODGING AND CONFERENCE ROOMS IN TERANGA, PAYING PER DIEM TO PARTICIPANTS AT RATE FOR GOVERNMENT-PROVIDED QUARTERS.

6. COMMITMENT URGENCY: HOTELS ARE USUALLY FULL TO MAXIMUM CAPACITY BEGINNING IN OCTOBER. EMBASSY IS BEING PRESSED TO MAKE IMMEDIATE COMMITMENT TO HOTEL SELECTED FOR LODGING AND CONFERENCE FACILITY. TERANGA HAS GIVEN SEPT 20 AS DATE BEYOND WHICH HOTEL MANAGEMENT CAN GUARANTEE NOTHING. BUREAU AUTHORIZATION FOR EMBASSY TO MAKE COMMITMENTS AND INCUR EXPENSES IS THUS URGENTLY NEEDED. PLEASE ADVISE.

AGGREY

NOTE BY OC/T: REFTEL NOT IDENTIFIED.

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